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#### The Pro Forms Decision on Eight Hour Law.

ne of the most firmly established principles of American legal procedure have been conspicuously violated in the disposition of the litigation instituted in the West to test the constitutionality of the Adamson eight hour labor law.

In the first place, the judgment is only a pro forma decision. It is not the outcome of careful and deliberate judicial consideration. In the case de cided in the United States District Court by Judge Hook there is no pretence that the decision represents the result of any serious thought upon the momentous question involved. It is avowedly a hasty judgment rendered forthwith upon the presentation of the case, because the Department of Justice desired to get it before the Supreme Court at Washington as speedlly as possible.

The motive of the Attorney-General is natural, but it has carried him too far when he insists uporfa decision in the court of first instance which is only a decision in form. It has heretofore been an invariable rule in appellate courts that they will review only actual determinations of the courts below, not fictitious judgments rendered solely to expedite appeals. This rule is based upon substantial grounds. The parties to a litigation are entitled to the carefully considered judgment of the trial court, not merely to a guess, as in the present case, whether an act of Congress is constitutional or not. Furthermore. the appellate tribunal in all matters of grave import is entitled to the aid and advice which may be furnished by an opinion from the court below Here, however, we have the unpredented spectacle of a Federal Judge condemning an act of Congress as unconstitutional without telling the rea

In the second place, if a statute is susceptible of any reasonable construction which will uphold its valid- within the memory of many now live uity, the traditions so greatly influity it is the duty of the courts thus ing. When General LEONARD WOOD to construe it. Admitting that it is was Chief of Staff of the United important that a review of the eight States army, he warned us that no hour law by the Supreme Court should time must be lost in placing this nabe expedited, and therefore that a tion in an adequate defensive condispeedy decision in the District Court tion. He began with summer camps was desirable, the District Judge, if for students, from which the Plattshe had to jump at a conclusion, should burg idea was evolved. More than have acted upon the presumption in 350 business men and professional favor of the constitutionality of the law and pronounced it valid.

The methods adopted in getting the courts to pass upon the Adamson law are almost as bad as the methods used to compel Congress to pass it. We shall be surprised if they receive the approval of the Supreme Court of the United States.

# Fighting the Bogy, Night Air.

The Department of Health has begun a seasonable campaign for more fresh air in sleeping rooms. Of course there is a large part of the population already convinced of the good effects of ventilation, but the department hopes to convert those who still nurse a prejudice against that "night air" which was a goblin to our ancestors It is trying to show the cave dweller that air in allopathic doses is no only harmless to most sleepers but necessary. The current Bulletin of the department admits that much educational work on this line remains to

"There still lurks the idea that open windows, sleeping porches and the like are desirable and indispensable for the tuberculous, but that they are unnecessary for the well. This, of course, is absurd. There is no doubt whatever that the more general adoption of fresh air life, more open windows, more outdoor walking, more apartments having sleeping porches, would markedly improve the health of the community and do much to prolong the life of its

From only a few are the joys of wind swept simmber to be withheld. These are persons who suffer from asthma and kindred ills, and they are advised to ask their doctors how far down they may let the window. All others should put an extra blanket on the bed and go to for the joy of sleep ing in cold, fresh air. The health sharps do not mention nighteaps, the non-potable kind; but we suppose they may be worn by those who have thin hair. Tuck the ends of the lace or cretonne curtains behind the chiffonier and adjust the window shade so that it may not rattle. Blow, blow, thou winter wind, thou'rt not half so un kind as that stuffy feeling on get-

ting up. Nor is the stuffy feeling all that

the death rate from pneumonia, bronchitis, grip and colds is greatest by far in the months of closed windows. The department does not pretend that the incidence of respiratory disease in winter can be reduced to that of summer, but it expresses confidence that the more general use of fresh air will bring good results.

The Health Department has set Monday, December 4, for Open Window Day, but by special dispensation all renders of THE SUN who have never become intimately acquainted with night air may begin its use this very evening.

#### The Economic Aspect of Military Training.

The prophetic wisdom of WASHINGton's apothegm has been so clearly temonstrated in our history and in the history of England that the difference of opinion on this subject is remarkable. England was warned by its great soldier long before the present war to prepare an army that would be as efficient on land as its navy has proved on the sea. General ROBERTS's advice was not heeded. The fatal result is obvious to-day. England was unprepared for war on land because her statesmen lost sight of the fact that her sea barriers are insufficient. Two precious years were spent in preparing an army in the resent war.

Like a conflagration, war may be prevented or checked in its inciplency by adequate preparation. The present European war offers on illustration of this. The lack of preparation has cost the Allies millions of men and of treasure and great loss of territory, despite their superiority in population, wealth and resources

A sad example of unpreparedne was presented by us in the Spanish war. Lives were sacrificed by reason of the lack of organization in the medical, commissary and quartermaster's departments. Our volunteers succumbed to disease before they were called upon to face the enemy. We have again to-day a flagrant example of slavish imitation of England's fatal policy. The bulk of the United States army, supported by the hastily assembled militia, is endeavoring to protect our borders, not against an organized army but against a band of desperadoes whom the so-called Constitutional army of Mexico is impotent to overcome. There is no doubt that the Mexican Imbroglio would have been averted if this country had had an army of half a million men at its disposal. A few well garrisoned posts within reach of the border would have kept the Mexican guerrillas at bay as successfully as our Western frontiers were protected against their prototypes. There would have been no need of taking men from their civilian occupations and their families for this purpose.

Since other cogent reasons for military defence do not weigh with the so-called pacifists the economic aspect of this question may be of value. The loss of life and treasure caused by our unpreparedness in the past and likewise in our present Mexican difficulties presents a clear economic

indictment of a fatal policy. Let us take counsel of events men have already qualified before an army board for commissions in the Officers Reserve Corps. This practical achievement entitles General Woon to recognition as a safe, sound and conservative adviser on military train-

We are led to these comments by the reported antagonism against the careful and well considered scheme of the governors of the College of the City of New York providing for extramural instruction, courses of lectures, supplementing practical work at the summer training camps. It is to be hoped that the trustees of the institution will not permit their sound judgment to be overcome by uninformed and unreasonable antagonism.

ing for defence.

# The Causes of Death.

An interesting fact in the summary of mortality statistics for 1915 issued to-day by the Census Bureau is that in the area where reports are registered and compilation can be made nearly one-third of the deaths were tue to three causes, heart diseases, uberculosis and pneumonia.

Those wise counsellors who insist that we are living too fast may find support in this summary. Heart discases, which are considered in many cases a manifestation of the severity seeking freedom in expression, all who of the struggle to get rich, to keep up uppearances, b burn the candle at both ends, are placed first as a cause of death. Last year the deaths from hese diseases numbered 156,2 to each 00,000 of population. This rate shows marked increase as compared with 1900, when it was only 123.1 to the where bohemianism is commercialorme number of persons.

It is cheering to learn that the rogress made in the prevention of tupercufosis has brought good results. The recognition of the contagious haracter of the disease, the consepart in the decline of the death rate. This has been twenty-five per cent. in has shown a marked decline in the some period. The rate, however, has fuctuated from year to year, being nuch higher in 1915 than 1914, which was the lowest on record.

The only remaining death rate higher than one hundred in 100,000

tality from these causes has been favor, or descend to such depths of increasing since 1900. The same is ignominy in failure, however excustrue of cancer, the sixth in order of able. Do the wounds of football heal deadliness. In this century only two quickly? There are as many All years have shown a decline in this America teams, or All Eastern, All disease as compared with the years Southern, All Western as there are immediately preceding.

Epidemics have not for several name them. As to champion elevens, years exacted a heavy toll upon our you may select your own. Football population. One of the gratifying must be a fake, a colossal fake. That things in the report is the marked decline of the mortality rate from typhold fever. The decline, in fact, is greater than that shown by any other Important cause of death. Improved methods of sanitation, better systems of water supply and sewerage, and campaigns against flies are factors which are cited as proving valuable in reducing almost two-thirds the death rate of this disease in the fifteen years of this century.

The safety first campaign has borne good fruit. There has been a due to railway, street car, mine and been so rapid as in the number of

machines in use. The census shows the astonishing fact that last year firearms caused nearly as many deaths as railroads and street cars combined and more than twice as many as automobiles. Out of 11,216 cases of suicide reported firearms were used in more than onethird. Firearms caused almost 5,000 other deaths.

It is evident from this report that there has been a lowering in the death rate of the country. This, no doubt, is due to the doctors, an increasing interest in sanitation and bealth and better methods of conserving lives in dangerous occupa-her bounds a young woman born in Germany who did not hear of the make a really satisfactory showing in mortality statistics it apparently should limit the use of firearms, and heeding the advice of the sages, stop living too fast.

#### Officers and Gentlemen.

We congratulate the directors of West Point and Annapolis on the behavior of the students of those institutions on their latest visit to New York. We felicitate the cadets and of the family. the midshipmen on their conduct: we wish the circumstances of their education would permit them more frequently to visit us.

In the demeanor of midshipmen and by the discipline under which they live are apparent. They have lost nothing of youth or enthusiasm; they have gained much of poise and selfn making officers and gentlemen are exhibit of competent, self-reliant, courteous and considerate American gentlemen which was disclosed on Saturday proves it.

It is unfortunate that so few Amerians, comparatively, have opportunity o see the boys undergoing technical training for the army and navy. Their persons and bearing are the best argument we know of in favor of military training. They comport themselves in a manner highly creditable to their good dispositions, their sense of digencing them, and their appearance and behavior must stimulate the interest and quicken the pride of every citizen of the United States in the services they so worthily represent.

#### Commercialized Eccentricity. Bohemin, we guess, need have no

remors of fear that the closing of a garret in its ducby will act as a writ of eviction on its people.

He had made a gainful occupation of "bohemianism" who locked the garommercial ways, docking his mighty name to be more conventionally a

"Pushing young particle, What's the next article,

Counter adorning young man."

Rather should bohemia rejoice that the garret with its futurist poets and its cubist painters is to be let, to some honest George Warrington, mayhap, or again to become the storeroom for Washington Square lawn mowers. never more to forward eccentricity commercialized.

homes in a corner of old Greenwich Village. There seems to be evidence that some helpful and interesting work is being done there; the writing was a half sister of Bailey of Barnum of plays and their production, some & Hailey, who died two or three years verse making worth while, illustrations bold in design-better conception to follow deeper thought-and Was it not Callahan or Sullivan? art classes for color workers which may start daring voyagers o'er uncharted seas of manner. All of these will not try to dance in chains, to whom convention social or artistic is irksome, surely have the amiable wishes of reasonable lookers on. But the garret, the studio, the restaurant ized: dispossess the "bohemian" who

# Sears on the Stadium Turf.

discovers that he is one.

Great is football, but there is no logic in it. A sport that has no fun ment isolation and the employment of for the loser is not the best sport. he open air treatment have all had And what can be said of an amateur sport as commercial as the East River waterfront? Even with the players the last ten years. Pneumonia, too, marked for identification, like live stock at a county fulr, experts cannot agree who made the run and who the tackle, while the inveterate follower of the game only knows his side won or lost, and cannot lucidly explain-in the presence of another looker on, at least-bow it was done. may be prevented. The Health De lopulation was that of Bright's dis- Not even in the political arena do

would explain its popularity. Popular it is, indeed, when 80,000 persons sit on stone all through a cold November afternoon, singing or shivering, praying or cheering for Yale or Harvard. But the cheers are not for offensive and defensive formations because of their ingenuity or technical excellence; not for a forward pass be-

cause it is well executed, but because it gains yards for "our side." There is matter in football for philosophers; but the philosopher who can handle it must be a combination of KANT, CABconsiderable reduction in fatalities LYLE, Mr. Dooley and, let us say, Big BILL EDWARDS. machinery accidents. The number of On Thursday the football season deaths from automobile accidents has ends, and thanks may be given for

increased, but the increase has not abatement of the fever. Coming with the political heats of a Presidential year, it has been glorious, but a strain. It has been shown that the "loose ball game" can be sufficiently thrilling: that Yale, Harvard and Princeton have no monopoly of skill and strength, and that the "Haughton system" is not supernatural. Yale is happy, Harvard will survive, hope never dies in Princeton breasts, and, win or lose, the Cadets and the Middies behave as true fighting men should. For hard, clean, clever play, for all that makes good sportsmanship on the gridiron, the Brown eleven of 1916 wins praise and admiration.

> Indianapolis has discovered world war until Saturday. A good many persons will envy her; most of us have heard far more of it than is

Chemistry will abolish old age.-News Pashion has abolished it already.

The Western householder who paid his maid servant \$2 a month and kept all reading matter from her may have felt that he was treating her as one

In spite of the commendable effort of the Long Island Railroad in its safety first campaign, autome drivers continue to act like crazy men at grade gate crossings. In this month cadets the admirable effects produced at one such crossing four cars were actually run through lowered gates and in front of approaching trains the fourth was wrecked and of its three occupants one was killed and the government. The processes employed others injured. If the drivers of these cars had been engaged in the ustified by the results attained. The pursuit, say, of a band of train robbers they would have had to summe up their courage even in the heat of the chase to take the risk. But as there was nothing to gain and everything to lose by recklessness they dashed gayly and heedlessly into the path of peril. No reasoning, it seems. can ever prevail over the destructive instinct of such speed maniacs. The best that can be done is to exercise stricter control over the granting of licenses to drive

> Undoubtedly life can be sustained but is it worth the price?

Broadway has had a tough time lately. Property owners have suffered trying to have the street restored to its normal condition and in their law. Compilance with the plain man-efforts they deserve the aid of every date of the Constitution would elect the farmers, for even the farmers are efforts they deserve the aid of every agency of the city government and Governor Hughes, not Mr. Wilson, would the help of all citizens. The town as give the Republicans a working majora whole is interested vitally in a pros-

So far no Democrat has propos ret door and betook himself to other embargo on cotton for the relief of the mill owners and operators of this country.

#### FAMOUS UNDERSTANDINGS. Was Mr. Balley, of Barnum & Balley.

a Callahan or a Sullivan? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Coincident with your declination to reveal the address of Frankle Bailey, I was rearranging a lot of my old theatrical made several years ago. Why this pleure of Pauline in tights should have We believe many bohemians, genu- suggested Frankle Bailey and brought inely hall marked, have made their to mind the letter in THE SUN I do not know; but, tell me, what has become of Pauline Markham?

Perhaps she's in the "movies"? As to Frankic Bailey, I believe she ago. To keep up the old and familiar title the late Mr. Bailey assumed that name. What was his original name? AN OLD JOHNNIE BOT.

NEW YORK, November 25.

# A Call to Duryea's Zouaves.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If there are members of the 146th New the globe. Such an enduring work could high cost of living. I believe the house- interest will probably prompt them to the globe. Such an enduring work could high cost of living. I believe the house- interest will probably prompt them to the globe. Such an enduring work could high cost of living. I believe the house- interest will probably prompt them to explaining to voters what they have alive I would like to hear from them. I enlisted in Company C in Utica and and, as it nearly always happens in such the hoycott, or have been talking about to our friends in that corner of old during the war was captured and spent cases, those that were pinched were the using it to lower the cost of living. Greenwich we make hold to say: Shun, a long time in Andersonville. I have ones that were capable of blackening the been to several reunions, but never could pincher's name in print. I wonder just ing for the paper containers of hams on find any of the men from my old regiment. I would also like to know where of same. My photograph, taken at the also wonder what the poor illiterates handler of meat on the time of enlisting, does not show very PHILADELPHIA, Pa., November 25,

And always entertains us-Pepy

We like him for his idle quips, Although sometimes he oversten Tarnished a bit they say his "rep" is

It does not matter flow you score him;

MENT.

If It Were Not Ignored Mr. Hughes Would Have Been Successful.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Bir: The who ask for direct election of Presidents seem to overlook the fact that the authorities, without authority, to change cannot consistently be made without the creation of a uniform standard of suffrage requirements. In the States of the South, where Democracy with a big "D" has supplanted democ racy with a small "d," the proportion of the number of voters to total population and in Mississippi 1 to 30. In Indiana it is 1 to 4. In the States where wome vote the proportion of voters to popula-tion is even larger. The Southern polifreed man and the poor white vote are, nowever, not too scrupulous to insist based upon this suppressed vote.

ion laws or practices of the old slave States to prevent a Democratic pluralon's so-called popular plurality was all elections do not exist, with 200,000 additional for good measure. A measure to enforce a free ballot and a fair count in the South would be called a "force bill" ocratic defenders of wholesale disfran-

The violation of genuine democracy in the States where Mr. Wilson's associates in Democratic leadership are running things is not confined to men of the same color as some of the peons in behalf Philippine Governments President Wilson. is supposed to be agonizing night and day. It includes the poor whites by the hundreds of thousands. In Mr. Wilson's own natal State of Virginia, upon whose fields he can look from the White House while writing his soulful periods about the Virginia Bill of Rights, a ruling olisarchy of 150,000 men has excluded from the ballot box, partly by an aleged "literacy" test accompanied by an nadequate common school system, part- land to the German people, and I am ly by a cumulative poll tax system, and writing at once to avoid any possibility partly by downright trickery and fraud, of my name's being used in connection specific instances of which may be cataninority rights on election boards and to similar practices. In view of the Adminstration's attitude toward democracy in that part of the country where its own senchmen are in complete control, its own power and carried their own supprofession of interest in the rule of the

The popular and electoral plurality of Mr. Wilson, the Democratic majority in the Senate and most of the Democratic vote in the House is based upon embezfled power secured through open violation of the Constitution, which provides for reduction of representation where the States where the New Freedom looks provisions of the Constitution President Wilson is sworn to uphold were enforced

people is rank humbug.

Fourteenth Amendment says in part: When the right to vote at any election and Vice-President of the United States. Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is dealed to any of the male inhabitants of any way abridged, except for the participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole

The Republican party has this year ost the Presidency through its cowardly failure when in power to meet the issue of real democracy raised in the South in Chicago on thirty-nine cents a day, by wholesale disfranchisement of the very voters upon whom the representation of these States in Congress and tion of President Wilson by an action at ity of forty to fifty in the next House people have taken in this matter. of Representatives, and would otherwise readjust matters to the good of the

ountry. While Attorney-General Gregory ooking into the matter of election frauds he might with profit examine into the Chonge B. Lockwood. MUNCIE, Ind., November 24.

#### "THOU LONELY FRANCIA!" s Paraguay a Monument to Its Dic-

tator's Good Qualities?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: Havtest against your effort to throw El will be the healthier for your abstinence. Rupremo back into the mud from which and the price of meat will come down. If the cost of living for Mr. Edward Lucas White has dragged The only ones who will suffer will be the is the only thing to be considered, then him. Why is it that when one genera- meat packers, and the loss of a few the public will be punished for it in has plastered a man with mud thousands will be less to them than the until they have a satisfactory home- loss of a dollar to you. made devil, later generations should so The price of coal is high. Then go to

Mr. White does not paint the dictator as coat, or a heavy set of underwear and a misunderstood angel; he paints him a thick suit of clothes instead of an as a great man, a merciless despot overcoat. You may make shift to get maybe, but a great man. Francia ruled along thus one winter, and the next for years and finally welded into a winter you may find the price of overnation that still exists as unstable a coats within your means. mixture of healthy barbarism and deca- The legitimate exercise of the boycott slavery and who got their first taste of more disease than any other written had they been able.

NEW YORK, November 25.

Mr. George Banks, a Confederate veteran, il years of age, a spiendid soldier of Com-any C. Seventeenth South Carolina Regi-ment, now living in this county, a good ment, now living in the state of farmer husband and a good citizen, a good farmer husband and a fine shot. H

Response of One American Asked to Celebrate the Deutschland's Exploit. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: The closed may be of interest to your readers. JOHN J. SWAN.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., November 25.

THE APPEAL DEAR SIR: The enclosed booklet with he Ambassador's letter will give you a ompleted and placed in the Royal Liment ever put there by the American

We want to add your name to the comnittee. We want every city in the United States represented on this comnittee by several representative men. The first undersea boat to cross the big rated. Aside from any personal feelir for or against the German nation, this fact stands out as a noteworthy achieve-

Will you permit the use of your name on the honorary committee which we intend shall be an expression from all America that genius and ability are to be honored and admired whenever and wherever found? Please give this matter your early at

ention and oblige. Yours very truly.

GEORGE VON SKAL.
For the American Deutschland Committee November 14, 1916. P. S. Sums of \$1 to \$25 toward raving the cost of the undertaking will e gratefully received.

Mr. John J. Swan.

GENTLEMEN: I have your letter November 14 stating that you wish poor whites and 150,000 blacks add my name to a committee having to tive to the exploitation of the Deutschwith this matter.

> To my mind there is nothing particu larly wonderful in the Deutschland's trip to the United States, inasmuch as submarines crossed the ocean under their plies, five of these going to the easter end of the Mediterranean, thereby mak land.

> elty nor anything particularly excep tional in the Deutschland's repeating good many months later a similar trip. Further than this, in view of the fac that the German Government through the means of its submarines deliberatel women and children in the case of th Lusitania, and has subsequently repeatedly destroyed vessels carrying American citizens without warning, United States to commemorate any ex-

> ploitation of German submarines. The fact that you have written to committee makes it imperative that establish my position with regard to this matter beyond any chance of dispute. Very truly yours.

November 17, 1916. The American Deutschland Committee 50 Union Square, New York Attention of George Von Skal.

# TAT LESS. BURN LESS.

a Spartan, Save Money Baffle the Food Magnates.

among the electors is based. I am not have seen a great deal in The Sun re-sure that a dilizen of any State which large losses, merchants have been because of lawlessness in other States ing, the price of milk, the profit the taxes, and alcohol for the manufac- may be a saving of the oil res handicapped in their enterprises and the public has been seriously incon- electors' votes under the Constitution the public has been seriously inconhas been seriously inconThe merchants are now might not invalidate the alleged reciections. While I have little sympathy special duty and tax. He gives in to a man. The conversion of the has for the meat packers and provision disM. Ribot's scheme thus far, that it oils into the more useful lighter of tributers (the latter may well include will stop the increase of alcoholism in an economic process of the highest becoming mercenary newadays). I do trial uses of alcohol and provide a direction of securing to the many of a not altogether commend the stand the

We Americans as a people are too pleasure loving, too luxurious. We must eat meat three times a day, heat our bodies with woollens and furs, and but whatever there is in the market to buy effeminate because we deny ourselves nothing. What a spectacle it is to see a strong man, his hands encased in thick weollen mitts, run shivering to the subway on a fine, bracing winter mornlittle children who play in the snow

with shouts of delight!

will save fuel, have a more robust body, In his great novel-for I trust you and the price of coal will come down.

will admit the novel is great, even if The price of clothing is high. Then you protest the greatness of Francia— wear a neat sweater beneath your waist-

Take this matter of the packers chargthe veiled but vicious attack the Rob- hams. Why eat pork products at all? can find a uniform or a colored plate ertson brothers made on the dictator. I An experienced butcher, farmer and whom El Supremo freed from virtual formed me that the hog packs legal justice from his hands would have mestic animal used for food. Go into tive in Congress from a farming section | the Chicago hospitals and ask the doc-If you would see Francia's monument, tors how many patients die of trichinosis, look at Paraguay. And please, please do a disease caused by eating raw, and next time he sought reelection. not again protest because an American partly cooked pork, and I think you will novelist adheres to Stevenson's text that be surprised at the number of deaths thing. If short crops have produced an There is so much good in the worst of from this cause. I do not consider the era of high prices we can stand it bet eating of ham and bacon to be as injurious as the eating of pork, but nevertheless, though ham and bacon are tasty Palmette State Veteran's Thrilling Feat, eating, I do not consider these food

products altogether healthful. The moral of this little homily is beny yourself, think less of your stomach and your bodily pleasures comforts, and the high cost of living and many other problems will fease to CHARLES HOOPER. trouble you. SEATTLE, Wash., November 15.

# partment offers a chart showing that ease and acute nephritis. The mor- men rise so fast and so far in popular THE FOURTEENTH AMEND- AN ANSWER TO AN APPEAL. DENATURED ALCOHOL IN THE MOTOR CAR'S FUEL TANK.

Efforts of the Governments of France, England and Germany to Find a Source of Power Cheaper Than Gasolene.

and expectation. After some delay the where alcohol denatured by benzine Government has come to the conclusion that some motor fuel besides gas- may be sold to motorists and those plene must be found. According to transportation companies which use M. Duchemin, the Government expert, this mixture as motor fuel. These political parties in France have imadvantage of raising revenue and conrolling the consumption of liquors, out the clear disadvantage of increasing the cost of industrial alcohol. and which has incomparably higher ises as an agent of heat, light and a cheap fuel and motive power. So motive power. Politicians, he adds, have utterly failed to gauge the imhave taken in a narrow and purely political way a matter which is seriously affecting the progress of the nation in finance and war. They have ernments. Just when the serious made the mistake of trying to get business, the critical time comes, they more out of the tax than it can yield. with the natural result of making the industry of alcohol cramped and un-

workable. M. Duchemin says: The importance of having a fixed pri for denatured alcohol when designed for use in motors has been demonstrated by one time the company used for all its Paris motorbuses a mixture of equal parts of denatured alcohol and bengine. The not because it presented any technical varied so widely, as a matter of fact, fro

If the Government had maintained a uniform price the success of denatured alcohol as a motor fuel would have been assured A duty of 250 francs a hectolitre has

been placed upon alcohol for human consumption, and M. Ribot has brought bill into the Chamber of Deputies to ncrease the tax to 500 francs. Probbly the bill will pass and by January . 1917, alcohol will pay a prohibitive duty, though it is an article essential to the conduct of war. It is with this giving their time and their brains to need in mind, no doubt, that the Britsh Government has decided to take inited Kingdom. It is stated by the Engineer that 15,000,000 gallons of 90 per cent, spirit were used this year in he work of making munitions, and production. that the time has come when a larger M. Duchemin, they have avoided an supply is needed and needed at once. hand, has failed to fit its scheme in with any advanced conception of in- ducer is to give him a preference in ternational or internal policy, Byrais- British markets. Instead, since August will be less alcoholism in France and

greater income to the treasury. M. Ribot's proposals are somewhat committee of the Board of Trade. better. They include the state monop- fore the license is issued the amsly of industrial or denatured alcohol, of the duty must be paid. It is, in special tax on wines and liquors and case of professional men, physic dustrial alcohols for the manufacture the amount of gasolene allowed is be of perfumes and medicines. But the on a six months supply. In the flaw in these proposals is that the of commercial vehicles it is for manufacturer will have to pay more months and of private cars for three says M. Duchemin, is everything, even the supply of gasolene, but the pracan artificial cheapness through reduc- cal way is to manufacture an aling the price of denatured alcohol by which can furnish automobiles trade conventions or syndicate agree- power. This is what Governments a ments, as is successfully done in Ger- have to do, and it may be accomplish many by the Zentralen für Spiritus- in two ways. They can en-

verwertung. Duchemin would have a fixed and gasolene to fortify alcohol. The three cheap rate for industrial alcohol. He of Mines is already engaged suggests three classes of spirits: Alco- study. It has established a tax of 250 francs a hectolitre; dena- nected with the economical ture of perfumes and medicines, in- of the United States, which are threat-France, that it will develop the indus- portance and a necessary step in means of avoiding or minimizing the cheaper fuel.

The French Government's recent crisis in the wine trade which will scheme to stimulate the production of industrial alcohol will excite interest not contemplate clearly the need of establishing throughout France depots and the heavier fractions of petroleum depots should take the place, so far as possible, of the gasolene stations to present.

The immediate prospect of a short, age of gasolene is a good spur to in-vention; it helps men of science and business through the trouble of unding far very little has been done in this direction, except by chemists and engineers in refining crude petr leum, very little that is absolutely constructive, that can improve the position find themselves unprepared in one of war's primary necessaries. In England within the part twelve months the cost of oil fuel of moderately good quality has increased nearly 100 per (Journal of the Society of cent. Chemical Industry, January 15, 1916) Good Texas oil, for example, costs 165 shillings a ton.

The difficulty thus produced by high prices is aggravated in still another way. The embargo placed on waso lene by the Government include 'motor spirit," and the embarge owes ts existence to an insufficient supply for the needs of the army. notor spirit is a stumbling basel. it covers denatured alcohol and mixures of alcohol of the heavier carbons, as it seems to do. then the ground possible. In fact, recently a motor bus proprietor was fined for using in his bus white rose paraffir oil. On this the newspapers remarked that if all substitutes for were to be placed under restrictions with the scientific workers who a

create an industry which will make the nation independent of others. Un fortunately the French and Brits Governments have stopped all progress along these lines and ated confusion in the conditions tutes for gasolene.

The best way of helping the ing the tax on alcohol, it argues, there 1 of this year every motorist who buy motor spirit has been required t have a license from the petrol confr

he creation of a special class of in- for instance, threepence a gailon, and denatured alcohol. Cheapness, months. It may be necessary to save Following the German example, M. they can find oils less expensive the

# EIGHT HOUR PAY.

Cost of Living. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SULE YOUR

orrespondent "A Railroad Stockholder" suggests that the radicads adjust their fact that many thousands of the employees' wages each year according voted for prohibition in State the cost of living that year, I see justice neither to the rallroads but a hazy idea of what the water

or to the public in such an arrange- dorsing. Some have figured to ing. The poor man is cold. Pity him, ment; for when the cost of living is to mean one thing, rome another nigh people curtail their travel, which sometimes there has been dispandiminishes the railroads' passenger re- even among prohibition bunders The price of meat is too high. Eat ceipts, and they also curtail their buying. Just how their amendment was ing read with a great deal of interest less of it, then. Eat it once a day in- which diminishes the railroads' freight construed. This was notable photographs and press clippings and I your editorial article on "The Napoleon stead of three times a day, or eat it receipts. In order to make the roads case of the first Arizona amendo ran across a print of Pauline Markham of Paraguay," I am constrained to pro- only three or four times a week. You pay, freight and passenger rates must some holding it to exclude liquer

If the cost of living for the employe

With such unjust expenses put upon the railroads there would be no demand strenuously protest if some one tries to the kitchen or to the living room for for either railroad stocks or bonds; they show that inside the historic flend there warmth and sleep in a cold room. You would shrink in value, and then where A RAILWAY BONDHOLDER.

ARDMORE, Pa., November 25.

#### The Effect of an Embargo on Farm Enterprise.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIE: The To the Estron of The Sun-Sir. The as to just what was contained in armers have recently been urged by hibition amendment that was an farmers have recently been urged by the President to raise larger crops of a large rent elewheat and other food products to reduce cent election, the amen-the cost of living. If let alone, self-full just as it was words

ain are permitted to rush through Con- Peculiar to Arizona at that 1gress a law placing an embargo on the exportation of grain and other food ma- bibition it has been apparent what was the man to man reason for the same basis as they charge for the terial is it at all likely that the farm- voters have had no accurate it. ers, discouraged by such legislation, will what they were doing. accept the President's advice?

Farmers are very far from being of America to explain its proimbeciles. They know which side their bread is buttered on. The Representafind his goose effectually cooked the

There should be no embargo on any ter than the nations across the water who are engaged in a desperate struggle with a ruthless fee for existence NEW YORK, November 25. M. T. R.

all for a Blue Ridge Literary Favorite From the Valley Times. What has become of the New Kingstoards, or back to Germany, or are his fin gers too sere hunking corn to

#### PROHIBITION PUZZLES It Cannot Be Governed Solely by the Complications Arising From Incom clusive Enactments.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN- ST a little comment has been cause the issue has been successful purposes, as the wording section dicate, and some holding that live personal use was not exclude courts having, after a long dela much agitation, adopted the larstruction, Arizona recently suf-

amendment to shut out even peuse liquor. Yet even now Arigona is how for she has gone, it would in the Rishee Review of Saturda. vember 18, is an article headed. the Probabilion Amendment As-Really Says," in the introduct

which it is said : On account of the continue?

If, however, the haters of Great Brit. for after they have voted for the other States that have adopted the voters before election

> f prohibition? President National Model League LOUISVILLE, Ky., November 24

after? Or would that maure the

What is the Origin of the While Braid on the Bluejacket's tuff TO THE EDITOR OF THE SES. SO.

formation supplied to a letter printed under the title of and Langard" is interesting, and I he will further explain the origin o three rows of white braid on the the American bluejacket s Has he gone up Sait River, or It is well established that the begone to Russia to fight the Span- worm designates worn designates the landsman, or seaman and A. B. respectively

NEW YORK, November 25. W. T.